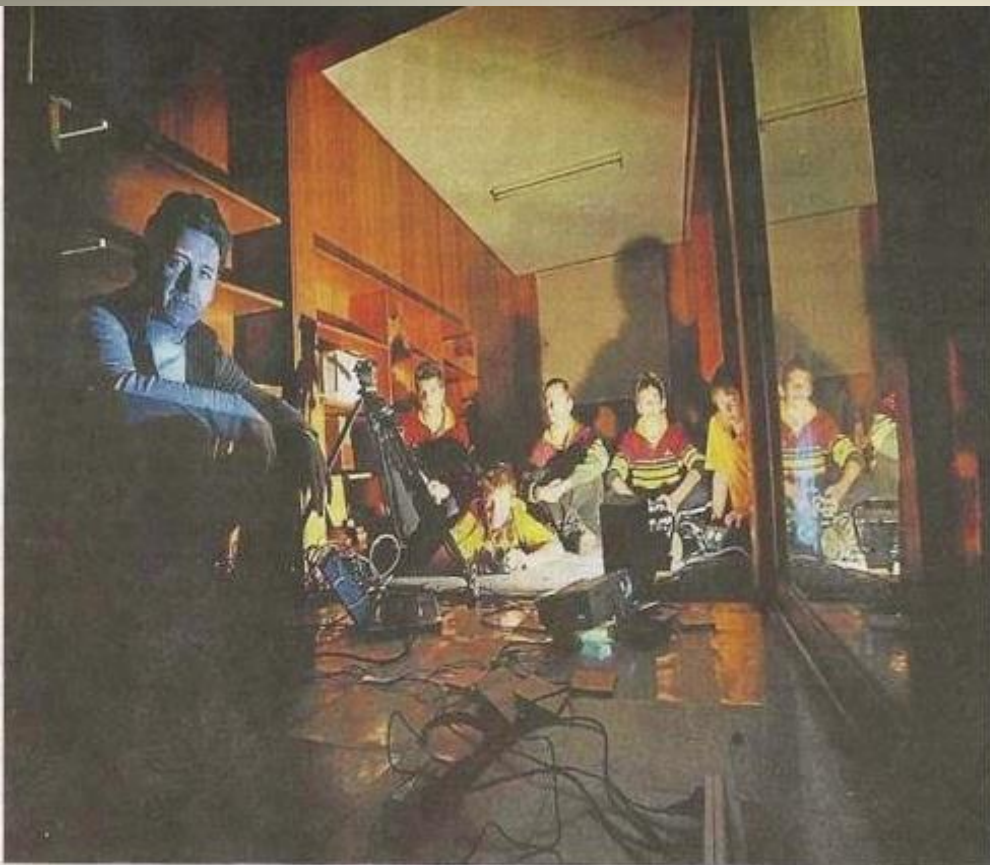




Artist-in-residence Glenn Folpp is bathed in blue projections by students Jonty Moss, Kaleb Clark, Nathan Parsell, Angus Tranent and William Ball.

Picture: SCOTT GELSTON

Classrooms from the past used to explore a digital arts future

By ROSITA GALLASCH

ABANDONED classrooms at the former Rocherlea Primary School became the setting for the production of a digital installation by Brooks High School students yesterday.

As part of the Arts Tasmania Artist in Residence program digital artist Glenn Folpp is working with 25 students on the piece to be completed early in term 2.

The old school was chosen because of its locality to Brooks, its connection to some of the students taking part in the project and it was an interesting location because it was now left empty.

Mr Folpp said the aim of the residency program was to bring together senior secondary students with an artist on a project to encourage and develop a meaningful and imaginative piece of work.

One digital installation piece shows an iPhone with different images flickering on it set to a background of sounds.

"It's about building a body of work that

has a sensitivity with space and time and the absolute environment that you're in," he said.

The digital installation incorporates the work of students that they have produced by themselves and in class, and includes photos, film and sound recordings they have gathered on their own, around Brooks and the Rocherlea school.

Mr Folpp said that the program was not only about teaching students but also about helping the artist develop and expand on ideas for their own work.

Brooks digital art teacher John Dobson said that the program had been great for the students in opening them up to another way to learn and think but also introduce them to equipment and processes they would not normally have access to.

Once complete there will be an exhibition of the installation, a book will be produced of the many photographs taken, a website developed and also a documentary showing the whole process.